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PATENT

Docket No.: C13929/122995

REPLY UNDER
37 CFR § 1.116

EXPEDITED PROCEDURE

TECHNOLOGY CENTER 1700

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Catia BASTIOLI *et al.*

Serial No.: 09/786,189

Filed: June 6, 2001

For: **BIODEGRADABLE COMPOSITIONS
COMPRISING STARCH AND
POLYSACCHARIDE ESTERS**

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) Examiner: K. Umakant Rajguru
)
) Art Unit: 1711
)
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)
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August 11, 2003

RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION

Mail Stop AF

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is in response to the Final Office Action mailed May 9, 2003, which set a three-month shortened statutory period for response. Accordingly, this response is filed timely upon mailing, with an executed certificate of mailing, on or before August 11, 2003, because August 9, 2003 fell on a Saturday. 37 CFR §§ 1.7 and 1.8. No fee is believed to be due. If it is

determined that a fee is due, please charge such fee to Deposit Account No. 02-4467. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Because the Office Action made the rejection of the pending claims final, consideration of this response pursuant to the expedited procedure for response after final rejection set forth in MPEP § 714.13 (8th Ed., Rev. 1, February 2003, pp. 700-209 to 700-210) respectfully is solicited.

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION: none.

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS: none.

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS: none.

REMARKS begin on page 3 of this paper.